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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT (Month of August, 1986)

The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during August declined from the July total of 158. The land crew total declined by one; the marine crew total declined by one, for a net decrease of only two crews. August was the thirteenth consecutive month, however, that the total number of crews has decreased.

The August total (156) represents a decrease of 1% from last month, a 60% decrease from August, 1985, a 70% decrease from August, 1984, a 68% decrease from August, 1983, a 72% decrease from August, 1982, a 79% decrease from August, 1981, and a decrease of 72% from the same month in 1980

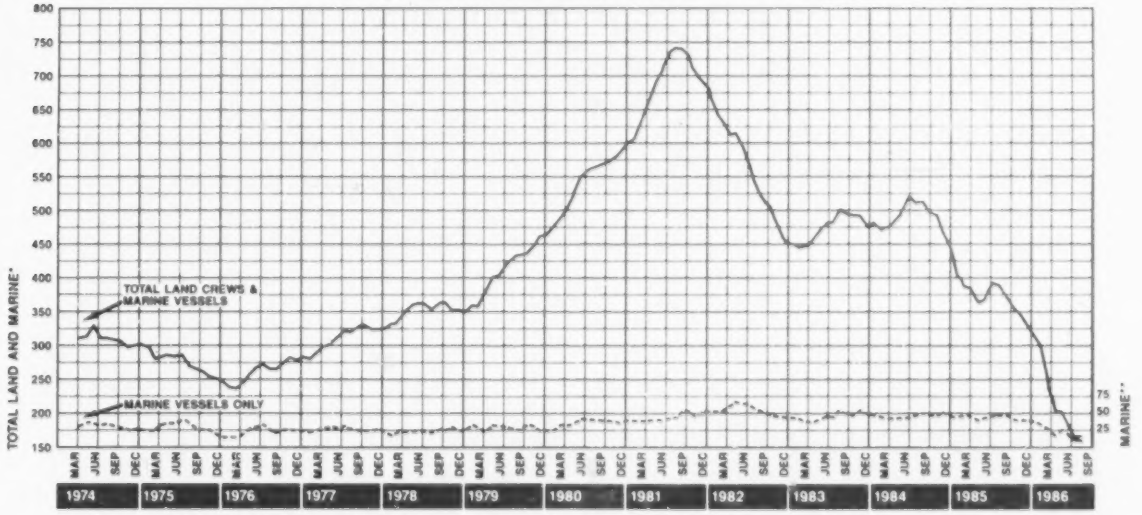
During August, three contractors were operating four of the 120 land crews and one of the sixteen vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Aug.'85	Aug.'84	Aug.'83	Aug.'82	Aug.'81	Aug.'80
	156	158	390	523	484	562	735	565

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Aug. 1985	Aug. 1984	Aug. 1983	Aug. 1982	Aug. 1981	Aug. 1980	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Aug. 1985	Aug. 1984	Aug. 1983	Aug. 1982	Aug. 1981	Aug. 1980
42 Contr's:	120	121	308	433	396	458	646	482	16	17	42	45	43	54	39	36
7 Oil Co's:	17	17	33	37	39	42	43	39	3	3	6	7	6	7	6	7
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1
Totals	137	138	341	470	435	500	689	521	19	20	49	53	49	62	46	44

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only

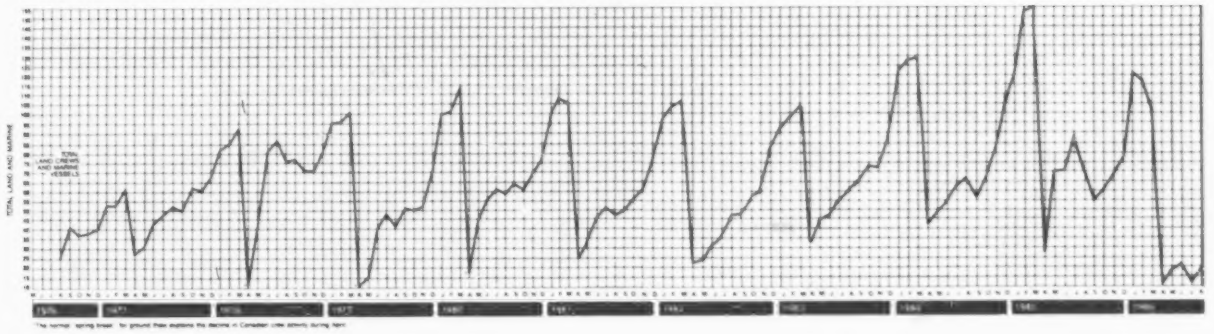
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

August, 1986 (July figures in parentheses)

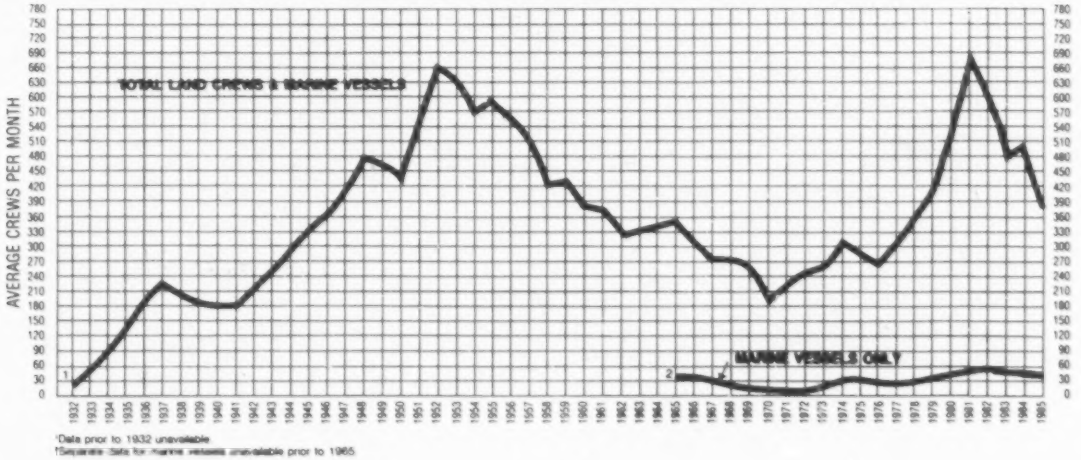
	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
13 Contractors:	17 (10)	2 (1)
1 Oil Company:	1 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	18 (11)	2 (1)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965.